

CLINTON COUNTY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
February 23, 2004

The Special Meeting of the Clinton County Board was called to order on Monday, February 23, 2004, at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL: Present: Beckmann, Foppe, Guthrie, Hitpas, Holtgrave, Kloeckner, Lampe, Mensing, Murray, Pingsterhaus, Robbins, Sullivan, Craig Taylor and Jack Taylor.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. All visitors and guests introduced themselves.

Scott Rensing, representing employees of the Vandalia Correctional Center asked the Board for their support in opposing the closing of the Vandalia Correctional Center. **MOTION** Jack Taylor second by Holtgrave to approve the resolution and send copies to the state legislators who represent Clinton County. **MOTION CARRIED.**

There has been some misunderstanding concerning the pay increases approved at the January meeting. The increase did not include part-time employees of the Sheriff's Department which includes the Bailiffs, Court Security and one custodian at the Court House. **MOTION** by Hitpas second by Craig Taylor to approve the above. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Health Insurance - Chairman Kloeckner stated he would have States Attorney Brandmeyer read a memo Brandmeyer had prepared for the County Board concerning a possible conflict of interest concerning the Chairman of the Insurance Committee, Ronald L. Foppe. All insurance brokers who are present will have an opportunity to address the Board after the memo is read..

Brandmeyer said the question asked was if a chairman of an Insurance Committee who recuses himself from the competitive bidding process be involved in the committee that ultimately selects insurance for the county and then the bid goes to a family member. And what is the nature of the relationship between the chairman of the committee and the family member, is there a direct pecuniary interest. Brandmeyer stated that the County Board had approved the Insurance Committee's report given at the last meeting. The report stated that Ronald C. Foppe and the Foppe Insurance Agency was the successful bidder on the health plans and was approved as the Agent of Record for the Blue Cross Blue Shield and Delta Dental plans for the County. At the same meeting a motion was later made and approved to have States Attorney Brandmeyer investigate a possible conflict of interest by the chairman of the committee. Brandmeyer said that Ronald L. Foppe did not bid himself. Ronald C. Foppe appears to be an employee of the Foppe Insurance Agency of which Ronald L. Foppe has divested himself of day to day interest. Ronald L. Foppe does not receive any profit from the agency. At this point there does not appear to be any direct financial or pecuniary benefit to Ronald L. Foppe.

After States Attorney Brandmeyer reviewed the bids, it appears that the bids submitted by Foppe Insurance Agency and Imming Insurance Agency were both flawed. Foppe Insurance Agency on the deductibles and Imming on the dental. The County Board has the right to reconsider and rescind its previous action. The County Board has the option of revisiting the entire issue and

completely reopen the bid process, maintain status quo or designate one or more agents of record.

The following insurance agents addressed the board: Dan Imming of Imming Insurance Agency, , Bill Foppe of Foppe Insurance Agency, Christine Johnson-Olster, and Gene Huels of Country Companies.

MOTION by Lampe second by Mensing not to accept any of the bids and start the bidding process over. Roll call vote. Yes - Beckmann, Guthrie, Hitpas, Lampe, Mensing, Murray, Pingsterhaus, Robbins, Craig Taylor and Jack Taylor. No - Holtgrave and Sullivan, Abstain - Foppe. Absent - Fix. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Jack Taylor second by Guthrie to appoint Mark Robbins as a member of the Insurance Committee. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Robbins second by Lampe to advertise for bids to be submitted by March 11, 2004, and with the bids that are equal and responsible, draw the name of the successful bidder out of a hat. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Mensing second by Sullivan to have the two lowest bidders (Imming and Foppe) spilt the split the agent of record for next month or until this is resolved. **MOTION CARRIED.** Foppe abstains.

MOTION by Lampe to rescind his first motion and Robbins to rescind the second on the motion not to accept any of the bids and start the process over. Second by Mensing. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Robbons to go with two responsible lowest bidders that we have and split for one year second by Mensing. Imming & Foppe Insurance. **MOTION CARRIED.**

MOTION by Robbins second by Holtgrave to adjourn the meeting. **MOTION CARRIED.**

Ray Kloeckner
Board Chairman

Thomas LaCaze, County Clerk & Recorder